

## **REMARKS**

### **Claims**

Claims 1-8 claim the method of applying the aqueous liquid coating composition claimed in commonly owned U.S. Patent 6,380,298 (Serial No. 09/190,866), which is the parent case of the present continuation application. Claims 1-8 contain no new matter and support for the new claims can be found in the specification at page 12, lines 12-24 to paragraphs 3-4 to page 13, lines 1-9. Claim 1 contains language found in the originally filed method claim 15 of the parent case and language from allowed claim 1 of the parent case (U.S. 6,380,298).

### **Allowability**

Applicants submit that the claims are allowable over Barch et al. (4,466,151), Gaa et al. (4,810,576), Kroesbergen (WO 96/23024), and other patents cited in the case, since none of these references, alone or in combination, teach a method of applying an aqueous coating composition comprising a solution of a water-soluble, superabsorbent polymer precursor in aqueous solution to an article and curing the polymer precursor on the article to form a superabsorbent polymer coating.

### **Conclusion**

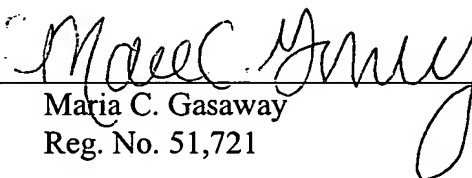
Applicants respectfully request that claims 1-8 be allowed for the reasons set forth above.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' undersigned agent at (740) 321-7213 if any unresolved matters remain.

If any questions should arise with respect to the above Remarks, or if the Examiner has any comments or suggestions to place the claims in better condition for allowance, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' agent at the number listed below.

Applicant authorizes any fees required pertaining to this response be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,

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